Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 12765 241140Z

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EO 11652: N/A

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW OF SECRETARY SIMON

- 1. JIMAD KHAZEN, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF BEIRUT'S REGIONALLY DISTRIBUTED INDEPENDENT ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "DAILY STAR," SISTER PAPER OF BEIRUT'S REGIONALLY DISTRIBUTED CONSERVATIVE PRO-SAUDI ARABIC-LANGUAGE DAILY "AL-HAYAT," WISHES TRAVEL U.S. AT HIS OWN EXPENSE TO INTERVIEW SECRETARY SIMON ON BEHALF BOTH PAPERS CONCERNING OIL PRICES, OIL EARNINGS AND THEIR INVESTMENT, RELATION OF ECONOMICS TO POLITICS IN MIDEAST CONTEXT.
- 2. POST KNOWS KHAZEN TO BE PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST BASICALLY WELL DISPOSED TO U.S. "AL-HAYAT" CIRCULATES WIDELY IN LEBANON, SAUDI ARABIA, JORDAN, AND SYRIA, WHILE "DAILY STAR" IS READ BY EXPATRIATE COMMUNITIES OF ALL NATIONALITIES THROUGHOUT LEVANT. EXCLUSIVE MATERIAL IN BOTH PAPERS IS ALSO PICKED UP BY OTHER PAPERS AND BY WIRE SERVICES. INTERVIEW COULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S.G. TO REITERATE ITS POLICY ON OIL QUESTION. KHAZEN PREPARED SUBMIT QUESTIONS IN ADVANCE.
- 3. IF INTERVIEW FEASIBLE, KHAZEN WOULD ALSO TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO COVER U.S. ELECTIONS AND U.N. DEBATE. HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO TRAVEL TO U.S. AS OF OCTOBER 29 OR 30 AND COULD UNCLASSIFIED

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STAY IN U.S. UP TO TWO WEEKS IF GIVEN FIRM

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APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY SIMON.	
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Message Attributes

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